

News *fire information*

Bureau of Land Management AZ

Dixie National Forest

Utah, Forestry, Fire, and State Lands

Bureau of Land Management UT

Zion and Bryce National Parks

Bureau of Indian Affairs



For Immediate Release
July 2, 2006 - 12 noon

Contact: Anne Stanworth/Julian Rhinehart
435-865-4657

Three Large Fires Burn in Southern Utah and Arizona Strip

Lightning storms of the past four days have resulted in 76 new fire starts in southern Utah and the Arizona Strip. Most starts are soon contained with little acreage burned, but firefighters continue to work with three recent starts that have become large fires – the Jacob, Baboon, and Birthday Fires. These fires are in addition to those occurring in the Bull Complex northwest of St. George, UT.

The Jacob Fire has burned 6,600 acres in Arizona since being reported late Friday night. Located about 40 miles southeast of St. George on the Arizona Strip, the lightning-caused fire is burning in grass, sage and pinion juniper. Three structures and desert tortoise habitat are threatened by the fire that is only 10 percent contained. The fire acreage will be more precisely measured from aircraft today.

Burning about 19 miles north of Cedar City, Utah, the Baboon Fire has burned more than 1,000 acres. Air attacks on the fire have reduced threats to nearby communication sites, and the fire is not considered threatening at this time. A Type 2 crew and light helicopter are now working on the fire.

The Birthday Fire, 38 miles south of St. George, Utah has burned about 1,000 acres in a wilderness area, but is not now posing a threat to structures. A Type 2 Crew and three engines have been assigned to the fire that is burning in rugged terrain difficult to access.

###

